

PUBLIC BUILDING AT WAUSAU, WIS.

JANUARY 7, 1897.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

Mr. MILLIKEN, from the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 2002.]

The Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 2002) for the erection of a public building at Wausau, Wis., submit the following report:

The city of Wausau is situated in nearly the center of Marathon County, in the State of Wisconsin, in the northern central portion of the State, on the Wisconsin River, eight hours distance from the city of Milwaukee by rail, and has a population of 13,000 people, is surrounded by a prosperous and an enterprising farming community, and is the entrepôt for the thriving and industrial towns of the county.

The manufacture of lumber is the principal industry, yet the location of other industries here make it a manufacturing city of no mean proportions, representing tanneries, iron foundries, sash and door and wood working, chair, veneer, novelty, and box factories, whose success attests to the desirability of this point as a manufacturing center.

The railroad facilities are of the best. The Chicago and Northwestern Railroad, with four trains a day, and the Chicago and the Saint Paul Railroad, with two trains a day, besides the freight trains, provide connections favorable for freight rates, and give access to all points in the State and afford competition with all the leading manufacturing and shipping points in every direction, and, with the completion of projects now under construction, will have direct connection with eastern points by both rail and water.

Two national banks, each with a capital of \$100,000, and a State bank, with a capital of \$60,000, are sufficient to meet the financial demands of business, and they are so organized and controlled that their capital stock can be increased to meet any future need of business.

One daily newspaper, in addition to the Chicago and Milwaukee dailies, together with the six weekly newspapers represent the press, which, with the many other organizations, social clubs, societies, political, religious, and secret, all attest to the intelligent inclinations of the people and a high order of society.

The schools of the city are represented by a public high school, supplemented by a school for the minor grades and a ward school of high grade in each ward, reenforced by a commercial school and several denominational schools, so that the people are afforded with the highest grade of instruction and have schools that rank with the best in the State.

The United States land office is located here, and its location is probably permanent, from the fact that its location is in the northern central portion of the State, in the vicinity of the largest amount of public lands held for disposal, and is easily accessible.

The business interests of the city are represented by the Business Men's Association, an association organized, controlled, and directed by the leading and representative business men of the city and representing all of the varied business and industries of the city.

The Wausau post-office is a Presidential free-delivery office of the second class. The more particular statistics are appended herewith.

It is in every way a metropolitan city; its principal streets are paved; it has a perfect system of sewerage, fire protection, waterworks, gas and electric light, Western Union Telegraph Company, and long-distance telephone to Chicago, New York, and Boston. Its people mainly own their homes, and the capital invested in the city is mostly by those living here, and are hereby interested in the improvement of the city, and with a conservative city government, low taxation, and a large extent of undeveloped territory on all sides, there is every incentive for capital to be invested here.

The following letter from the First Assistant Postmaster-General gives the receipts of the office, with amount of business transacted:

POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF FIRST ASSISTANT POSTMASTER-GENERAL,
Washington, D. C., May 21, 1896.

DEAR SIR: In reply to your verbal inquiry of to-day, I have to submit the following items of information relative to the post-office at Wausau, Wis.:

Total gross receipts for fiscal year ended June 30, 1895	\$12, 197. 50
Number of carriers employed.....	5
Number of clerks employed.....	4
Domestic money orders issued (number, 4,497).....	\$25, 249. 71
International money orders issued (number, 142)	\$1, 345. 46
Mails received and dispatched by railroad (or for which provision has been made):	
By Minocqua and New Lisbon R. P. O. daily ..	4
By Eland and Merillan R. P. O. do	4
By star routes, 1 daily; 1 three times a week, and 2 twice a week.	

Very respectfully,

F. H. JONES,
First Assistant Postmaster-General.

HON. ALEX. STEWART,
House of Representatives.

The committee recommend the passage of the bill with the following amendments:

Strike out the words "one hundred" in line 11 and insert "fifty," making the limit of cost \$50,000.

Also strike out, beginning in line 11, after the word "dollars," down to and including the word "appropriated" in line 13.